

REMARKS

Allowable subject matter:

The Examiner indicated that claims 5 and 6 are directed to patentable subject matter and would be allowed if amended into independent form including all of the limitations of their base claims and any intervening claims. In response the applicant has rewritten claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 5, and claim 5 has been cancelled. Since original claims 2-4 and 6 depend from claim 1, claims 1-4 and 6 are in condition to for allowance.

The Examiner objected to claim 3, line 3 because the word “resin” was considered to have insufficient antecedent basis. The claim has been amended to recite “resin carbide” which has its antecedent in claim 2, which claim 3 depends. Thus, this objection has been overcome.

New claims:

New claims 7-11 have been added. Support for these claims can be found at page 31, line 6; page 28, line 3; page 28, line 4 and page 53, lines 12 – 13, respectively. Further, each of these claims depends directly or indirectly on amended claim 1. Thus, claims 7-11 are in condition for allowance.

Objection to the Abstract:

The Examiner objected to the Abstract because it was in two paragraphs and included the phrase “the present invention.” By the present Amendment these defects have been corrected.

Prior art rejections

Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by JP 2003-346801 (the “’801 Patent”). Claims 3 and 4 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious and unpatentable over the ‘801 patent in view of JP 10-297912 (the “’912 Patent”). The cited references do not disclose the pore diameter, the pore volume and the remarkable effect at a temperature of -20° C that is recited by the original claims. Nevertheless, as noted above, all of

the claims have been amended to include the limitations of original claim 5, which the Examiner has found to distinguish over the prior art and these reference in particular. As a result, all of the presently pending claims are in condition for allowance.

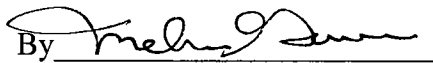
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered, that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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